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Saint Mary's College of California

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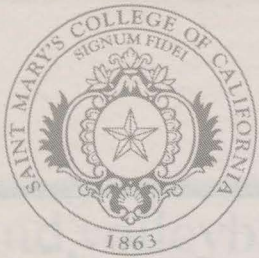
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The Collegian

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Intercultural Center faces Diversity Fund sacrifices

Student workers' hourly wages threatened in tentative Associated Students budget

BY CJ COSAS AND CHARLIE GUESE
NEWS EDITOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Financial fear emanated from student diversity workers when the Finance Committee of the Associated Students (formerly ASSMC) submitted a proposed budget allocation for next year. What concerned students at the Intercultural Center was the removal of hourly student wages for Student Leaders Initiating Diverse Education (SLIDers).

Every year, the allocation process distributes funds collected from the \$150 Student Activity Fee to

nearly every student organization on campus, including Recreational Sports, clubs and organizations (including The Collegian), and the Diversity Fund. The Intercultural Center receives primary funding from other campus sources, but AS contributes to the Intercultural Center through the Diversity Fund, which finances the Diversity Dance, cultural nights, retreats, and IC staff development.

In an interview with The Collegian, Lizette Guevara, a student worker who began working as a SLIDER at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year, noted that while the Intercultural Development (ID) leaders receive their wages from the College and are somewhat unaffected, a wage cut to the SLIDers may have forced the IC to reallocate their expenditures to cover the wages.

"The IC cannot function without SLIDers, so they may move around the budget to keep them," Guevara said. "ID leaders are paid, but SLIDers will not be covered. The money

for programming and the other resources that the IC provide might be cut or reduced."

According to Guevara, SLIDers usually work a 7-10 hour work week, which includes office hours, assisting in larger IC events, planning events during shift hours, and aiding in advertising and organizing events, especially cultural nights.

Internal documents show that the Diversity Fund proposal increased by \$2,800, from the 2013-2014 budget of \$58,900 to \$61,700 each year for the upcoming three years. The allocation request includes increases for the Diversity Dance, Latino Cultural Night, and the Lu'au, with reductions for the Diversity Retreat. The Proposed Budget Allocation approved by the Finance Committee tentatively allocated \$49,200 for the Diversity Fund, with no inclusion for SLIDER wages and cuts for the Diversity Retreat.

At an AS Senate meeting on Sunday, April 27, over 20 students affili-

ated with the IC expressed concern at the changes, especially with regards to cuts in SLIDER wages. Many of the impacted students indicated the personal importance of their positions and their wages and that they could not continue to work as SLIDers under a stipend system like every other organization that receives AS allocation.

Vice President for Finance Anthony Oliveira and Vice President for Student Affairs Natalie Franzini countered some of the concerns by saying that AS supports diversity funding and that diversity is important to AS. As a result, AS Senate unanimously approved a motion that at least 10 percent of the AS budget will be allocated to the Diversity Fund. (As a comparison, Recreational Sports receives 26 percent. Clubs and Organizations, which includes the Diversity Fund, receive 74 percent). The AS Executive Team also suggested that the IC could find other sources of funding for SLIDER wages outside AS.

see SLIDER, page 3

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Women's tennis makes run at the championship

More news online at stmaryscollegian.com

Momma's Boyz bring drag to Saint Mary's



MOMMA'S BOYZ lip syncing and dancing to the song "Happy" by Pharrell Williams (Sara Desantis/COLLEGIAN).

Professionals and students perform to explore themes and ideas of sexuality through drag

BY TORI STRINGER
ASSISTANT OPINION EDITOR

On April 23, the Hip Hop & Social Justice Series (also co-sponsored by The Disney Forum, the Communication Department, and

the Women's and Gender Studies Department) hosted Momma's Boyz, a drag king performance group who are celebrating ten years of performance. They have previously won the San Francisco Drag King Contest, currently perform all around the United States, and are one of the few traveling drag troupes around today. The performance was also organized in part by Professor Scott Schonfeldt-Aultman's Communication 163 Drag: Everyday, Kings, and Queens course, whose students also participated in some performances.

When audience members walked into the Soda Center, they were first greeted by a panel of wheels with various drag king and

queen names on them. Guests would spin the wheels to get a drag name such as Elektra Cackles, Sunshine Chuckles, or Manny Macksmore. Then, guests were welcomed to take a fake mustache and find a seat. Just about every seat was filled by the time the show started.

The show featured not only the Momma's Boyz, but Saint Mary's students as well. Performers such as Chastity Cheeks, Zee, and a boy band in a style from the 90s performed hits from Beyoncé, N*Sync, Nicki Minaj, and others. The students took on both the roles of drag kings and queens as they courageously sang live or lip-synced along. The students had help, as they were trained by

some of the members of Momma's Boyz in preparation for the performance.

The Momma's Boyz performed multiple numbers as well. The show began with a high-spirited lip sync to "Happy" by Pharrell and led by Momma's Boyz members Alex U. Inn and Randy Puck. They pulled up audience members from the first few rows to dance with them, setting the tone of fun and frivolity for the night. They also lip synced to popular songs like "Give It 2 U" by Robin Thicke and "Holy Grail" by Justin Timberlake and Jay Z, to name a few. They closed out the show with their famous live rap set that included slightly altered lyrics to iconic rap

songs like "You Can't Touch This" and "Ice Ice Baby." This inspired an impromptu dance party in front of the stage from the audience and student performers.

There was also time for a question and answer section at the end of the performance where audience members got a chance to ask the Momma's Boyz members in-depth questions about how they started in drag, how they face nega-

The Momma's Boyz also emphasized that drag is really for anyone, queer or straight, male or female, and so on... anyone can do drag and use it as a method of expression as they do.

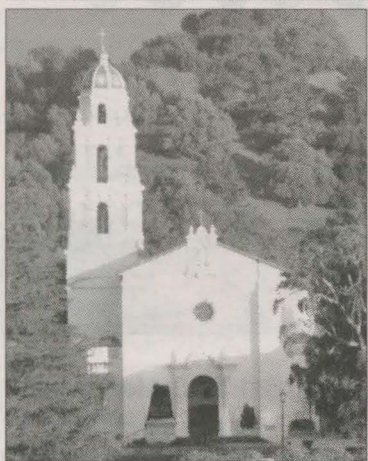
tive feedback, what the challenges are of being a drag king versus a queen, and other such inquiries.

All of the Momma's Boyz got involved in answering the questions, telling stories about being true to themselves despite some unsupportive figures in their lives, experiences doing drag in both the masculine and feminine roles, and inspiration for their drag personas.

Randy Puck talked about the challenges that face both drag kings and queens in portraying femininity or masculinity as genuine or as a parody: "There is a fine line that exists whether you're portraying masculinity or femininity, and that's something that we can continue to explore."

All of the members of Momma's Boyz that were present that night were involved in the field of education, so many questions centered see DRAG, page 3

THE INSIDE PAGE



The Collegian

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*"To act upon one's convictions
while others wait,
To create a positive force in a world
where cynics abound,
To provide information to people
when it wasn't available before,
To offer those who want it,
a choice—"*

—TED TURNER

EDITORIAL

Leon Panetta's undergrad speech poses questions

BY CHARLIE GUESE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Imagine the excitement of Saint Mary's administrators at securing former Secretary of Defense and CIA Director Leon Panetta to speak at the undergraduate commencement next month. Saint Mary's should, in fact, see this as a coup, for they have now joined many other colleges and universities in seeking speakers with a big name and a high profile to give the one final lesson at commencement. Panetta is perhaps one of the biggest names to have delivered the commencement address in Moraga in recent history. With that said, as much of a success it is in getting a former Cabinet member to speak at commencement, the selection of Panetta raises some serious questions about what sort of message administrators think Panetta will give to graduating seniors.

The Saint Mary's press release, which presents a kind, Botox-level puffed-up version of Panetta's background, says that Panetta's career "reflects a lifetime commitment to the highest ideals of the nation." I suppose this might be true if the Obama administration's comprehensive targeted killing drone policies, of which Panetta was an architect and defendant, are included in one's definition of American ideals.

In September 2011, purported Islamist militant Anwar al-Awlaki

was killed by a CIA-led drone attack in northern Yemen. al-Awlaki had extremist views, and questionable evidence suggested that al-Awlaki posed a threat to the United States, though he was a U.S. citizen who was denied due process and was not allowed to face any of the charges against him, partly because the Obama administration never filed

... a U.S. citizen has no constitutional rights once his or her government declares him or her a "terrorist" — whatever that may signify.

charges or presented any formal evidence against him that he was a national threat.

Even worse is that al-Awlaki's 16-year-old son, Denver-born Abdulrahman al-Awlaki, was also killed in a drone attack two weeks later. No evidence supports that al-Awlaki's son had any ties to terrorism whatsoever, and anonymous senior Obama officials have been quoted as saying that Abdulrahman's killing was a "mistake." The Obama administration has never made any public comment about Abdulrahman's killing, nor has Panetta. However, when asked by CNN's Erin Burnett about the

legal justification for killing Anwar al-Awlaki, Panetta gave an answer that would make Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld proud:

"This individual was clearly a terrorist. And yes, he was a citizen, but if you're a terrorist, you're a terrorist. And that means that we have the ability to go after those who would threaten to attack the United States and kill Americans. There's no question that the authority and the ability to go after a terrorist is there," Panetta said.

Throughout Panetta's career at the CIA and Department of Defense, he has provided dubious legal justification for authorized executive killings in which President Obama is the judge, jury, and executioner of anyone who is labeled a "terrorist" by the U.S. government. In other words, a U.S. citizen has no constitutional rights once his or her government declares him or her a "terrorist"—whatever that may signify. Journalist Glenn Greenwald provides an analysis even sharper than I ever could:

"Here we have the U.S. Defense Secretary, life-long Democrat Leon Panetta, telling you as clearly as he can that this is exactly the operating premise of the administration in which he serves: once the President accuses you of being a Terrorist, a decision made in secret and with no checks or due process, we can do anything we want to you, including executing you wherever we find you."

I should iterate that I firmly believe almost anyone has a right to speak on this campus. Many controversial speakers have spoken at Saint Mary's, including Bill Ayers of Weather Underground fame (ironically an organization that has often been called a terrorist group), and on a different scale, after the Starting Six cancellation last year, this newspaper even raised the question of what precedent is set when individuals or groups are invited or uninvited to campus. With that said, I am curious to hear what sort of message Mr. Panetta will offer to the graduating class next month, as well as what sort of message Saint Mary's hopes its students will get out of him. Panetta's career has included a signature doctrine of draconian and authoritarian drone policies that prioritize killing targeted individuals and the innocent civilians around them over due justice. It seems to me that such policies are unharmonious with the Catholic mission of Saint Mary's, which claims to place its priorities on human life and social justice. Does Saint Mary's selection of Panetta mean that Panetta embodies the mission of Saint Mary's and is a good selection for the final lesson to its students at commencement? Or is the selection of Panetta merely another way to promote the perpetually image-conscious College as being able to attract a high profile name for its commencement?

Crime Beat

04/04/2014 09:18 p.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation (Incident occurred at same as report)
Synopsis: Underage possession/consumption of alcohol in Justin Hall; referred to Community Life

04/04/2014 09:20 p.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation (Incident occurred at same as report)
Synopsis: Underage possession/consumption of alcohol in Justin Hall; referred to Community Life

04/04/2014 09:21 p.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation (Incident occurred at same as report)
Synopsis: Underage possession/consumption of alcohol in Justin Hall; referred to Community Life

04/05/2014 01:49 a.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation
Synopsis: Underage possession/consumption of alcohol and an open container in public area in Madigan Gym; referred to Community Life

04/05/2014 11:17 p.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation
Synopsis: Marijuana usage in Ageno West; referred to Community Life

04/06/2014 01:27 a.m.
Incident: Student Handbook Violation
Synopsis: Underage possession/consumption of alcohol and noise violation in Augustine Hall; referred to Community Life

04/06/2014 10:39 p.m.
Incident: Information (Prior to report)
Synopsis: Broken window in Augustine Hall—unknown cause and suspects; referred to Facilities Services and Campus Housing

04/07/2014 07:50 p.m.
Incident: Information (Occurred 4/6/2014)
Synopsis: Unwanted contact via phone and text messaging; referred to Sodexo and Community Life

04/08/2014 10:50 p.m.
Incident: Hit & Run (Occurred 4/08 between 10 p.m. and 11:57 p.m.)
Synopsis: Damage to left side of vehicle occurred on San Miguel Road between North and South Claeys; suspended

04/08/2014 04:27 a.m.
Incident: Fire Alarm
Synopsis: Food cooking set off alarm- no smoke, fire, or scorching- in McKeon Pavilion Gym; referred to Facilities Services

04/09/2014 10:25 a.m.
Incident: Medical Assistance
Synopsis: Missed step and strained ankle and shin bone in the Dante Hall south stairwell near bottom floor- no transport; referred to Community Life and Health and Wellness Center

04/09/2014 07:30 p.m.
Incident: Illegal burning
Synopsis: Fire set by burning pollen/cotton substance-

fire and smoke present- extinguished by creek bed behind Guerrieri East and West; referred to Community Life and Moraga Police

04/10/2014 01:18 p.m.
Incident: Medical Assistance
Synopsis: Student twisted ankle at the Syfuy Performing Arts Dance Hall Studio- no transport; referred to Community Life and Health & Wellness Center

04/10/2014 01:43 p.m.
Incident: Medical Assistance
Synopsis: Fall by student near exterior of Hagerty Lounge- transported to Stat Med Urgent Care via taxi; referred to Loss Prevention and Environmental Health & Safety

04/10/2014 05:52 p.m.
Incident: Information
Synopsis: Disruptive behavior in Justin Hall; referred to Community Life

04/13/2014 12:17 a.m.
Incident: Information
Synopsis: Broken window on East entrance to Madigan Gym; referred to facilities services

04/13/2014 12:51 p.m.
Incident: Fire Alarm
Synopsis: Food cooking set off fire alarm - no smoke, fire, or scorching - in South Claeys second floor kitchen; referred to Community Life and Facilities Services

4/13/2014 05:41 p.m.
Incident: Fire Alarm
Synopsis: Smoke from cooking set off alarm- no fire, or scorching- in Guerrieri East; referred to Community Life and Facilities Services

04/14/2014 04:13 p.m.
Incident: Medical Assist
Synopsis: Stack of chairs fell on an employee in the Soda Activity Center- transported by taxi to John Muir; referred to Human Resources, Campus Housing, and Loss Prevention

04/16/2014 Time n/a
Incident: Violation of restraining order
Synopsis: Non-student violation against student via text in Ageno C; referred to Community Life

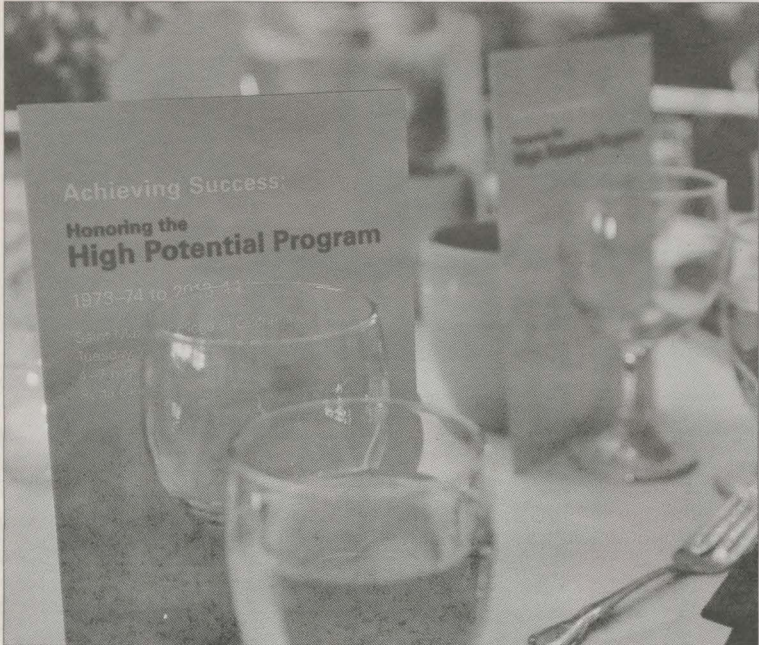
04/17/2014 06:49 p.m.
Incident: Information
Synopsis: Damage to rear window of vehicle from foul ball in the new baseball field parking lot- not an SMC ball; referred to Athletics

04/18/2014 05:28 p.m.
Incident: Vandalism
Synopsis: Graffiti painted near old sewage treatment plant area- area north of the SMC dam; referred to Moraga Police

04/23/2014 07:20 p.m.
Incident: Violation of Student Sanction
Synopsis: Restricted access violated in Ferroggiaro Quad; referred to Community Life

NEWS

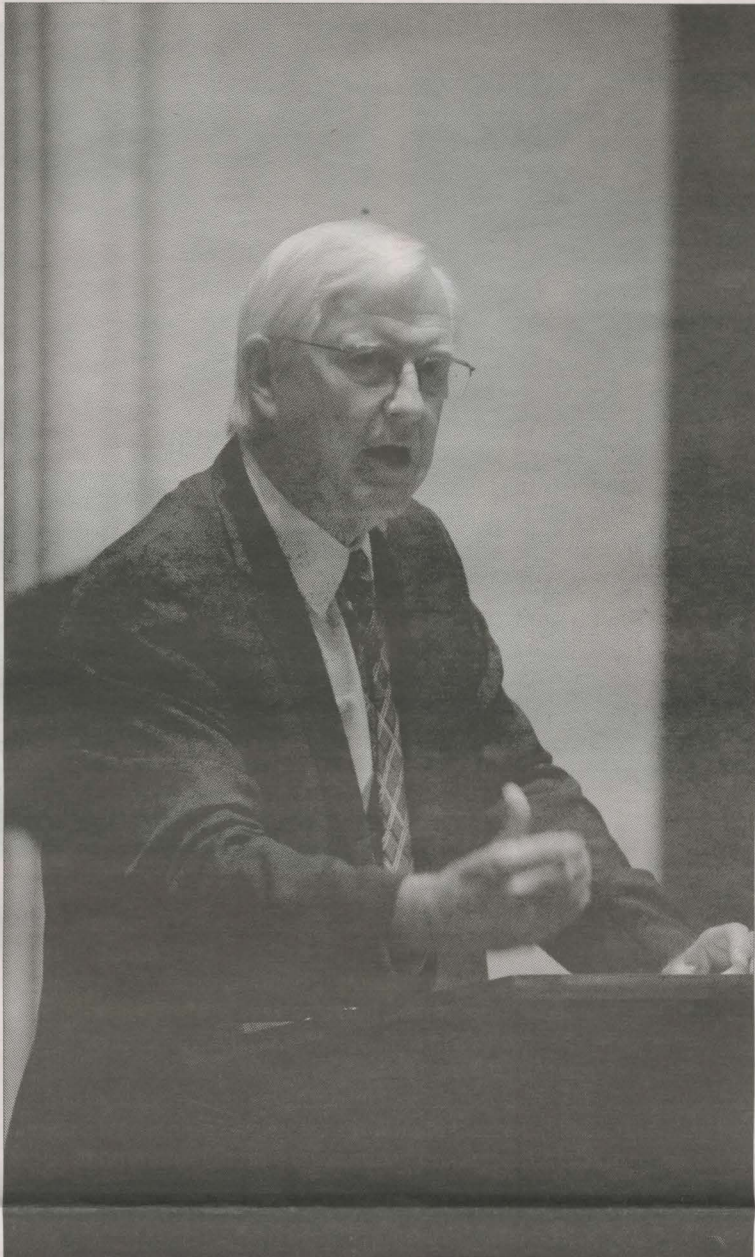
Snapshots



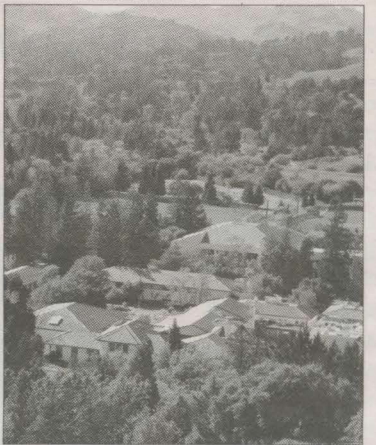
HIGH POTENTIAL PROGRAM celebrated 40 years of success with its anniversary dinner last Tuesday, April 22. (Andrew Nguyen/COLLEGIAN)



MARIA ANGELICA GARCIA was the keynote speaker at the High Potential Program's 40th anniversary dinner. (Andrew Nguyen/COLLEGIAN)



PRESIDENT JAMES DONAHUE giving his lecture titled "Catholic Identity, Catholic Theology, and Inter-Religious Dialogue: A Practitioner's Reflections." (Andrew Nguyen/COLLEGIAN)



Campus Calendar

De La Salle Week
April 27- May 4
Various Events
Check SMC Mission and Ministry website for full list of events
Or Contact Ryan Lebre
x8154

Mass at the Cross: Blessing the New Cross
Tuesday, April 29
5:15-6:15 p.m.
Cross on the Hill
Contact Anthony Arteaga
x4801

Lasallian Star Search
Wednesday, April 30
9:00-11:00 p.m.
Dryden Hall
Contact Mitchell Woodrow
mmw8@stmarys-ca.edu

The BASH!
Thursday, May 1
6:00-9:00 p.m.
Soda Center
Contact PRIDE
pride@stmarys-ca.edu

Fair Trade & Social Justice Festival
Friday, May 2
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Ferrogiarrio Quad
Contact Sr. Jodi Min
x4075

Classics to Broadway
Saturday, May 3
4:00-5:30 p.m.
Soda Center
Contact Performing Arts Department
x4670

Festival of Colors: Holi Spring Interfaith Celebration
Sunday, May 4
2:00-4:30 p.m.
Chapel Lawn
Contact RHA
x8336

DRAG: anyone can do drag to use it as powerful form of self expression

continued from page 1

on performing for students or children. Alex U. Inn said that they started by performing for children and that answering the questions that that type of audience would have was always a teaching moment. However, he also said that they received some very intelligent responses from the children and that "children have the capacity to be great if we let them."

The Momma's Boyz also emphasized that drag is really for anyone, queer or straight, male or female, and so on. They advocated for their dying art because they say it allows them to express themselves in a way that they couldn't before, and talked about how anyone can

do drag and use it as a method of expression as they do.

The feedback session was not all serious. While some members were talking, others would be dancing around the stage or, as in one instance, "droppin' the booty," as Alex U. Inn said. This spoke to the mood of the entire night; while there were serious themes about gender and expression being presented, it was, more importantly, a fun and joyful night. Audience members were able to immerse themselves in the experience, whether they went up and danced with the Momma's Boyz, or just spun the wheel to get a drag name. The night was a great success in bringing awareness to an art of expression not typically found on some peoples' radars.



STUDENT performers in drag lip syncing to N'sync's song "Bye Bye Bye" (Sara Desantis/COLLEGIAN).

SLIDER: AS Senate approves revised budget with diversity cuts

continued from page 1

As a way to fund the \$8,500 needed to cover SLIDER wages using AS funding, AS senators suggested a revised budget that would reduce each of the five cultural night budgets by \$5,000 and reduce the Developing and Programming Funds by \$3,500. At the meeting, IC Director Joan Iva Fawcett expressed satisfaction at the modified request, saying that the cultural nights' budgets could be reduced for food and catering expenses while still featuring student performances.

As a result, AS Senate approved the amendment, meaning that the \$8,500 SLIDER wages will be

covered, reducing the five cultural nights by \$1,000 each, as well as cutting the Programming Fund by \$2,000 and the Development Fund by \$1,500. For the IC and next year's future SLIDERS, this could be seen as a positive outcome in spite of sacrifices, though this reduces funding for the Programming and Development Funds, which are floating funds that all organizations can request to use for financing club and organization conferences, retreats, or on-campus events that are open to the entire student body.

With the approved budget being released soon, the IC will still be able to provide many of its services and events as scheduled, and its SLIDERS will continue to receive

hourly wages, though the IC may find itself in a more difficult position in relying on AS funds to program the cultural nights and other events that the IC hosts or sponsors on campus.

(Disclosure: As an AS organization, The Collegian receives funding from AS as well as advertisers to cover costs of printing, web development, staff development, and staff stipends.)

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A Great Resume Builder

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employment@OnlineCEUcredit.com

Planning an event?

Want it in The Collegian?

E-mail us with the details of your event at:
smccollegian@gmail.com
or call for more information:
(925) 631-4279

Due to space limitations, we cannot list individual club meetings.

CULTURE

“Pop Psychology”

Neon Trees' impressive new album



www.stagebuddy.com

BY JENCY JAMES
STAFF WRITER

Mental illness and sex — Neon Trees front man Tyler Glenn cites these as the inspiration behind the indie-pop band's new album “Pop Psychology.” After churning out irresistibly catchy tunes such as “Animal” and “Lessons in Love (All Day, All Night),” the band does not disappoint with its latest work, which takes an introspective look at personal demons that listeners can't help tapping their toes and bobbing their heads to in its 36 minute entirety.

Neon Trees is known for its poppy and infectiously addicting beats, and this pattern continues in “Pop Psychology.” While a lack of stylistic evolution might make a band seem stagnant and stale, this loyalty to a particular style is actually a strength for Neon Trees.

The band has come into their identity and can portray this through a sound that works for their music. Any Neon Trees

Neon Trees is known for its poppy and infectiously addicting beats, and this pattern continues in “Pop Psychology” ... This loyalty to a particular style is actually a strength for Neon Trees.

fan can attest to the recurring theme of sex and relationships through much of the band's music, and “Pop Psychology” stays true to this pattern — but even more so than before.

The album is much more risqué as heard in the lyrics of “Text Me in the Morning” (You tell me you're tipsy/I tell you you're pretty/we could spend the night if you're still sure) and “I Love You (But I Hate Your Friends)” (Somehow I can't

refuse it/ I dig your blatant sexuality). But what would one expect from an album whose first single is “Sleeping With a Friend”?

“Pop Psychology” also stands out in the Neon Trees discography with its unique backstory. After touring for the first two records, Glenn began to suffer from depression and sought help from a therapist to make sense of the changes in his life. “Pop Psychology” gives an auditory representation of Glenn's therapy sessions.

In an interview with radio.com, Glenn speaks to the driving force behind the album: “At moments there's a cry for help and sadness. But I think it's a real fun pop record at the heart of it and something with a message too.”

The over-arching purpose of the album is remembering we are never alone in our troubles as heard in “Living in Another World” and Glenn's self-proclaimed favorite track, “First Things First,” which closes out the album with the lyrics (You are/never gonna get/ everything you want in this world/ first things first/get what you deserve).

“Pop Psychology” is also much more rhythm-based than previous albums, permitting drummer Elaine Bradley to showcase her powerhouse drumming skills. “Unavoidable” allows Bradley to prove her killer vocal ability in a duet with Glenn that leaves listeners thoughtfully nodding along to the mellow but catchy track.

The talents of guitarist Chris Allen and bassist Brenden Campbell also play an instrumental role in putting together a fresh, pop record that will surely be deemed one of the best albums of 2014.

“Pop Psychology”'s only flaw: while 9 out of the album's mere 10 songs are fantastic, the short album length leaves listeners hanging. But at least their ears will be in absolute heaven for a solid 36 minutes.

GRADE: A+

DOWNLOAD: “I Love You (But I Hate Your Friends)”

Returning trends from our childhood

Millennial kids rejoice: some favorites are back in style



SELENA GOMEZ works a sophisticated updo with a '90s twist by adding a large, black scrunchie. (Courtesy of Glamour Magazine)



EMMA WATSON struts her stuff in stylish black overalls while out to lunch in Madrid. (Courtesy of Seventeen Magazine)

BY EVELYN MINAISE
ASSISTANT CULTURE EDITOR

Of the many generations of young adults over the years, our generation is particularly enthralled with remembering the past. A lot has evolved throughout the lives of the millennial generation members, and that passage of time carries many nuances within it. Our '90s childhoods had many simple trends that were very characteristic of the time; and those trends have somehow resurfaced over the years. Here are some of those memories that are returning slowly.

Overalls: Yes, they're back. They come and go throughout the years, but people never fail to find a new way to wear them. Generally, I don't think anyone is

opposed to more comfortable yet trendy fashion options, and that's what overalls offer.

Scrunchies: They might be from the '80s neon workout garb era, but they're an easy way to add color and spunk to any outfit.

Relatable TV characters: What happened to “That's So Raven,” “Lizzie McGuire,” and “Boy Meets World”? Their characters were kids living their lives, going through the same issues as us at the time. It wasn't about reality TV, and no character's goal was to get famous. With the growing fame of “Modern Family” and the soon-to-air “Girl Meets World,” maybe the modern relatable character is finally returning.

Denim: I distinctly remember buying a jeans jacket as an elementary school kid. Now, 12 years

later, my little sister in the 6th grade just bought the same one. Denim has made a gradual return over the past few years to where it is now, with more denim jackets and vests available in stores.

Tying jackets around the waist: This old school playground trick is back. It's become popular to wear plaid and denim shirts tied around the waist. Now storing your layers is easy, convenient, and fashionable.

Although some of these ideas may seem like a stretch, they are definitely worth considering. Overalls will soon be lining the runway and scrunchies will soon be on everyone's wrists. Get ahead of the game and into the '90s before it becomes the new “thing.” Take the risk, because our favorite decade is back.

Fashion spotlight: Gilbert Mundo

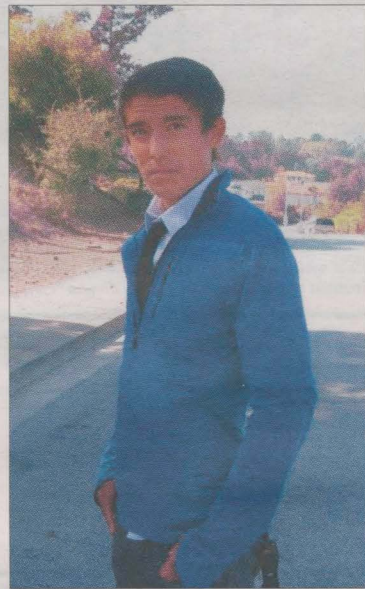


Photo courtesy of Gilbert Mundo

BY TORI SPRINGER
ASSISTANT OPINION EDITOR

Jeans or athletic sweatpants, tee shirts, and hoodies — this is the typical outfit for a male student here at Saint Mary's. It is rare to see a guy really put some effort into his appearance, but then there's Gilbert Mundo. Sure Gilbert doesn't dress to impress every single day, but, when

he does, people notice. Button-downs, sweaters, and maybe even the occasional bowtie give Gilbert a look that's still casual with a touch of class.

Gilbert describes his style as hipster-preppy. “If I had unlimited funds, I'd always shop at J. Crew,” he says. Gilbert loves J. Crew's hip looks, various pattern and color options and, of course, the 30 percent off online sales. Though he says he also likes the styles at Banana Republic and Macy's, he will hit up Old Navy if he needs the perfect cheap alternative to brand name looks.

A go-to outfit for him? His favorite pair of black skinny jeans, a button-down, and his Clarks boots — which he insists are the must-have item for guys. “Any outfit goes with those boots. They're my favorite item of clothing I own,” he says.

Where does Gilbert draw all his fashion inspiration from? He has three very specific influences: Pharrell Williams (well-known singer of the current popular song “Happy”), Kanye West (well-known rapper), and

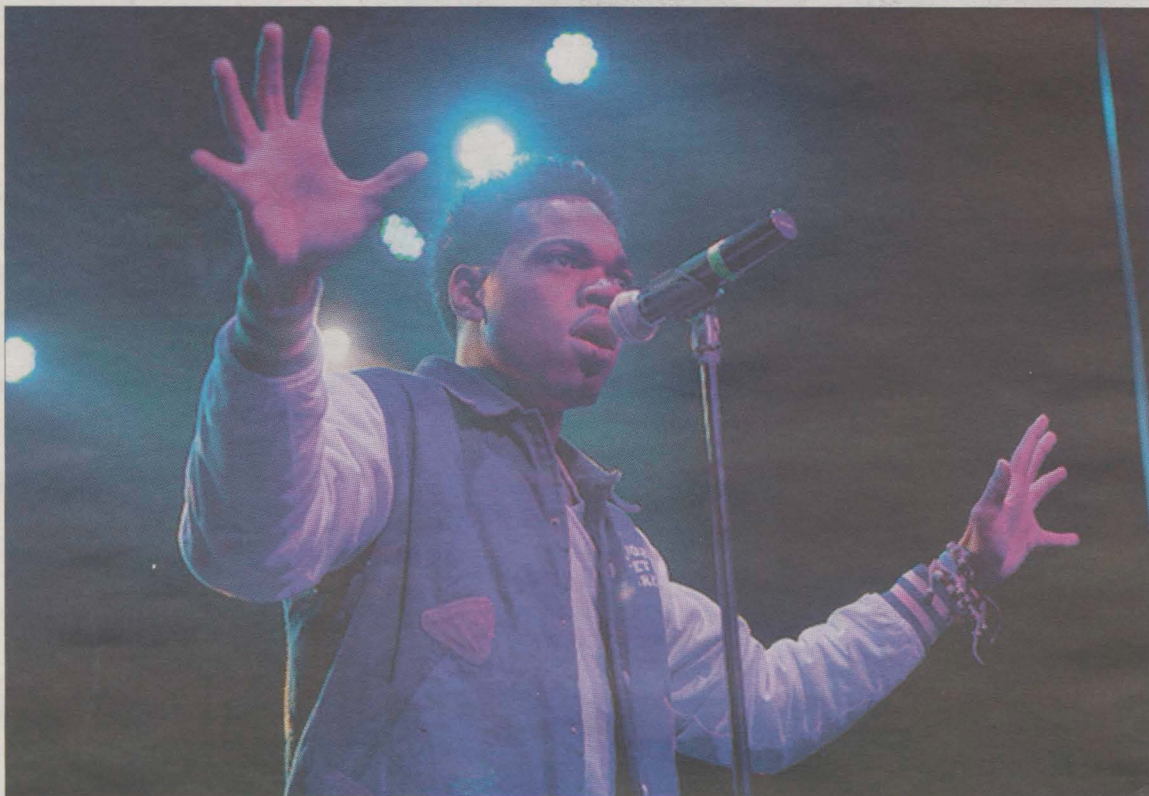
Russell Westbrook (pro-NBA player). He says he tries to emulate his style after these figures because they take risks with their looks. “They're bold with their style, like wearing bold prints, and I want to be more like that,” he describes. A quick Google search of any of these men proves Gilbert's point; they exhibit class and risk in their fashion choices, but the gamble pays off for them.

So what's the next fashion trend Gilbert wants to take a risk on? Patterned shirts. “I can't wait to go shopping,” he says. “I want to buy lots of patterned shirts, like polka dot and stuff like that.” It's rare to see a guy so excited about expanding his wardrobe, but Gilbert really loves shopping for new looks and dressing to impress. “I dress up when it's a nice day, or when I'm feeling good about myself,” he explains. “If I already feel good, dressing nice is only going to multiply that feeling.” With spring here, there are lots of nice days to come, so keep an eye out for Gilbert and his flashy threads.

CULTURE

Take a chance on Chance

Chance The Rapper proves to be worthy of fame



Courtesy of Consequence of Sound

BY JUSTIN GOLD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If James Brown, Tupac Shakur, and Kanye West had conceived a child, it's safe to say that the offspring would have been something along the lines of rising hip-hop sensation Chance The Rapper. Not very often do those three names appear in the same sentence, but a closer examination of Chance's talent proves him worthy of drawing such references. With smooth moves reminiscent of the King of Soul himself, lyrics that actually contain substance that many other artists in this era of hip hop fail to deliver, and a quirky style with what many, including Chance himself call an "underdog" mentality, it's easy to see how this combination of individuals serves as an adequate description of the totality of Chance's traits as an artist. As one might imagine, this becomes all the more evident when these traits are on display during a live performance.

Here is a brief background for all of those who are not familiar with the MC: Growing up in the streets of Chicago, Illinois with a peculiar name, as he states in the opening lines of his song "Prom Night," Chancelor Bennett eventually earned himself a ten day suspension from school, with which he used the time to craft his first mixtape entitled "10 day." After finding moderate success with the first project, Chance followed up "10 day" with his sophomore mixtape "Acid Rap," and the rest was history. Solid production along with witty lines and unique delivery resulted in a masterpiece from the self-proclaimed acid rapper, one that was gobbled down like sweet, delectable chocolate cake by fans all over the world. He clearly had some calling for it to be released as a full length album. Whatever doubts previously existed about Chance's ability to deliver on a record were completely obliterated after Acid Raps' conception. The project catapulted

Chance from rookie newcomer to hip-hop mainstay seemingly overnight; it even saw him touring and doing features with hip-hop heavy weights the likes of Childish Gambino and Lil Wayne (If you don't know who these two artists are I can't do anything more than pray for your poor musically deprived soul). The accolades don't stop there though. Acid Rap was such a huge hit that it resulted in "The Social Experiment Tour," a worldwide tour headline by none other than Chance himself. Just for a little perspective, most artists only tour after dropping successful albums, not mixtapes.

On April 14, 2014, a social experiment occurred inside the inside the walls of San Francisco's Warfield Theatre, an experiment that involved a truly charismatic performer, a sensational band, and one incredibly diverse crowd that was enthralled from start to finish. Couple that with the fact that the concert happened to take place on the artist's birthday, and you get an idea

Solid production along with witty lines and unique delivery resulted in a masterpiece from the self-proclaimed acid rapper, one that was gobbled down ... by fans all over the world.

of the kind of night this crowd was in for. After braving the harsh, unforgiving cold waiting in a line that seemed to go on forever, everyone made their way into the building and found their designated areas. The sold out crowd grew restless, awaiting their beloved superstar, causing "We want Chance!" cheers to quickly ensue.

But what exactly is it that had everyone so eager for a dose of the acid rapper? The first and most likely reason is that whenever Chance decides to

do a concert, he puts on a show; I'm not talking about standing stationary at center stage with one hand on the microphone and the other on his crotch, but a truly masterful display of pure energy and passion from start to finish. From the moment he hit the stage, Chance wasted no time dazzling the crowd with smooth footwork proving himself worthy of the aforementioned comparison to the King of Soul. Once you get past the happy feet, you see that Chance is even better at creating meaningful lyrics along with controlling the moods of his crowd. He brought the house down when performing high-energy crowd pleasers such as "Favorite Song," "NaNa," and "Smoke Again." He also connected with the masses on a more somber note with deep, introspective songs like "Lost" and "Coco Butter Kisses."

The most impactful song of the night may have even been the performance of "Pusha Man," a song in which Chance details the harsh, dark reality of Chicago's streets for many of his youth. Besides possessing the ability to glide effortlessly across the stage and create lyrics with substance, the most profound trait that this artist has is his off the wall, infectious personality; this is part of the reason that attending a Chance The Rapper concert is a social experiment. He challenges his audience to stay tuned for the entirety of a spectacular show. He challenges them to expand their horizons and develop a liking to something other than generic mainstream sound. This isn't new to Chance fans, though, and the entire crowd showed their satisfaction for a job well done in a touching sentiment by singing happy birthday to the MC near the close of the concert. It was a fitting end to a night replete with energy and emotion on both sides. If you have yet to give his music a shot, then take a chance with this rapper, because by the looks of April 14, he won't be putting down the mic anytime soon.

The Carters to go on tour

Rumored summer stadium performances will sweep the United States

BY ALEXA GAMBERO
COPY EDITOR

Music's first billionaire couple Beyoncé and Jay-Z are suspected to headline their very first set of performances together this summer. "The Mr. and Mrs. Carter Tour" has been confirmed to make at least 20 stops in the United States, with the possibility of a few performances in Europe to follow come September.

Rumors of the power couple's joint summer series of stadium performances started floating around after the duo stepped onto the Coachella stage during the festival's first weekend. Since then, fans (including me) have been anxiously awaiting the tour's official announcement, which seems to be coming soon.

Until the box offices open, supporters of the industry's dynamic duo can only speculate the details of their sure-to-be memorable performances. No doubt, the couple will do a rendition of their famous duet "Drunk In Love," which, at its debut during the 56th Grammy Awards in January, included infectious laughter, a chair routine, a couture leopard, and plenty of flashing lights. In addition to their most recent single,

I would expect the happy couple to bring back some of the songs they released before they were married. 2003 was an awesome year for Bey and Jay: they told the world that they were in love. Jay-Z's release of "03 Bonnie & Clyde" and Beyoncé's release of "Crazy In Love," along with the respective music videos seemed to cement their relationship. These songs, though over a decade old now, are still some of their best, and if "The Mr. and Mrs. Carter Tour" is truly going to be a joint effort, they are going to have to break out these big numbers. Who knows? Maybe they will bring back Beyoncé's infamous denim booty shorts and red sling backs and Jay's camouflage hat from the "Crazy In Love" music video to make their audiences a little nostalgic.

News of "The Mr. and Mrs. Carter Tour" came as a surprise, since both Beyoncé and Jay-Z recently wrapped up their own solo tours, performing close to 200 combined shows in the past year. Not to mention, Beyoncé released a surprise self-titled album at the end of 2013 and has just landed a spot on Time magazine's list of the 100 most influential people in the world. There is no telling how her career would have taken off without the help of her husband, or his without her. The Carters seem to be the perfect team, graciously sharing their passions with the world. Their joint tour could not have better timing, and I would expect the production itself to be nothing short of breathtaking. All we need now is to find out where to buy tickets; Carter fans unite.



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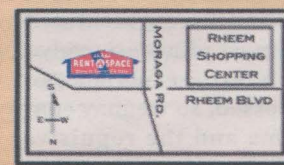
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OPINION

Stigma about depression still too widespread

BY MATT RINGARD
OPINION EDITOR

The Mayo Clinic defines “depression” as “a mood disorder that causes a persistent feeling of sadness and loss of interest.” According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated one in ten adults in the United States reports depression, and it’s among the most common mental disorders. It has mental, emotional, and even physical consequences; it can worsen health and decrease productivity. In more serious cases, it can lead to suicide.

Despite the pervasiveness of depression, many remain unclear on how it works. Consequently, and fueled by media, public perception of depression is loaded with stigma. I’ve heard people wonder out loud, “What do they have to be depressed about?” Many seem to equate depression with a kind of weakness, a defect of character. Those who are depressed are all-too-frequently regarded as out of control, and as a danger to both themselves and others.

Turn toward entertainment and news media, and you’ll find plenty of examples. Think about how many antagonists in films are psychos with “histories of depression.” Just last weekend, a young California woman was arrested after she allegedly stabbed her seven-month-old son in a Livermore park. The San Jose Mercury News reported the story as, “A mother believed to be suffering from depression stabbed her 7-month-old-son to death.” Later in the article, the authors say, “It was not immediately known what may have spurred the woman’s actions, but she is believed to be suffering from some kind of depression.” The Associated Press’s coverage of the story also mentions the woman’s history of depression.

Although no explicit connection is made, the implicit message is that her depression is an explanation for an action that, in many ways, is inexplicable. Perhaps that’s the reason we fall back on mental illness — we need it as a “reason,” as a way of grappling with appalling incidents. But the problem with this is that depression then becomes associated with violence.

Even more, when depressed people are told by everyone around them that they’re weak, ineffective, and dangerous, it can become a kind of self-fulfilling prophecy. If you’re told over and over that you’re weak, chances are, you’re going to think you’re weak.

So, as with the many dialogues in which we must engage — those about race, class, gender, sexuality — we must continue to examine and discuss mental illness. We must educate ourselves and others on the experiences of the depressed, so we may combat stigma and the repulsive, reductive media representations of mental illness we see every day.

Graphic content in “Game of Thrones” is unhealthy

Violence and sex scenes tap into viewers’ animalistic nature, essentially trashy television

BY JAMES SCOLAMIERI
STAFF WRITER

Although it is HBO’s most watched television series since “The Sopranos,” “Game of Thrones” has been criticized for its depictions of some of the most graphic sex and violence scenes on television. HBO’s high-budget television series like “Game of Thrones” have augmented the way Americans take their prescribed dosage of brain-melting media. Each episode is a full hour of high-budget, well-written entertainment filled with all kinds of creative goodies that titillate modern viewers.

“Game of Thrones,” like a number of other television series of its kind, has at least one semi-pornographic scene and at least one scene containing brutal gore per episode. Not only are these scenes carefully spaced out so that viewers can watch any particular episode with the assurance that their psychologically repressed blood-lust and sex-lust will be appeased, but they are choreographed and shot better than most of the real porn and gore footage out there. This begs an important question: Does the artistic and entertainment value of the work redeem its dirty content?

The series is adapted from George R. R. Martin’s fantasy book series “A Game of Thrones,” which certainly contains as much violence, brutality and lewd sexual activity (sometimes



Courtesy of HBO

all at once) as the TV show. The novelist reworked the typical fantasy narrative by creating a world where pain and death await any and every person too weak, too stupid, or too righteous to avoid it. Most fans of the series will attest to this rule of Martin’s as bold and clever writing, but the facts of life in Martin’s stories are bound to produce some stuff for mature audiences only. Having that sort of shameless content in a book is one thing; seeing it portrayed realistically on screen with the help of the most advanced CGI and other special effects is something entirely different. I would agree that literary depictions can be just as chilling, arousing, disgusting, and terrible as film, but something about the visual and aural stimula-

tion we can receive from television as a medium makes it all the more sensory, all the more real.

Instead of trying to take on the ethical dilemma of whether or not “Game of Thrones,” as an extremely well-made piece of entertainment, redeems its more smutty elements (an unanswerable question to which my unjustified and inexplicable answer is yes). Instead, permit me to ask: Is it healthy? No. It’s not healthy. I can’t imagine watching a bunch of medieval characters engage in graphic torture, rape, murder, mutilation, and monarchical subservience is a healthy thing for my own or anyone else’s brain. But neither are fast-food, soda, pollution, or wars in the Middle East and nuclear weapons, and none of those

are going to be leaving us any time soon. The truth is that we humans have a side that is attracted to the sort of things which we see and are shocked by in “Game of Thrones,” no matter how evil and atrocious we think them to be.

We can’t help but have tendencies toward more animalistic behaviors. Absorbing these behaviors via television might repress these tendencies or bring them out in people, but to say that these portrayals shouldn’t be publicized is a matter of personal election. Without a doubt there are better things that “Game of Thrones” viewers could do with their time, but if you’ve already lost your innocence and are itching to relive the experience vicariously for hours and hours, I recommend it.

Saint Mary’s should temporarily lower acceptance rate

Being more selective for a few years will allow more accommodations for current students

BY CALLIE COKER
STAFF WRITER

Saint Mary’s College is known for small class sizes, student reputation as faces rather than numbers, and the ability for students to form real relationships with peers and faculty. Students, both prospective and current, admire the small nature of the Saint Mary’s community but struggle with maintaining the small aspects they love when the acceptance rate is 69 percent. (The matriculation rate — students who are accepted and ultimately attend Saint Mary’s in the fall — is lower). Schools with larger acceptance rates are admitting more students and are therefore bringing more

bodies to campus that have to be housed, more cars that have to be parked, and more food that has to be served. So, it appears Saint Mary’s contradicts itself somewhat. Is it possible to have a relatively high acceptance rate while constantly maintaining an intimate, tight knit community? Or is it time to raise the standards of applicants and lower the acceptance rate?

As the year progresses, it seems that more and more students are noticing that accommodation of students is a struggle. Housing selection took place just a few weeks ago. This is always a stressful process, but the process is exacerbated when housing sign-ups begin at 10 a.m. and all upperclassman hous-

ing is filled by roughly 11:45 a.m. As you walk through campus, you hear students stressing about finding off-campus housing, expressing annoyance about the lack of parking, and competing with the lack of space to study on campus. While Saint Mary’s is still maintaining small class sizes, other aspects of college life are becoming limited and frustrating. The College is currently building a recreation center, there are plans to add seating to McKeon, and a new library is supposed to be built in future years. However, plans to add more parking or housing are strained issues, and this seems difficult considering the College’s surroundings. Still, I’m not sure expansion is the best alternative to

dealing with the problems students are addressing. New construction requires quite a bit of funding, and lowering the College’s acceptance rate, either minimally or significantly, relies on a variety of factors.

One aspect of the College students continue to admire is registering for classes. While it can be difficult if a student gets a “bad” registration time, it seems students still have better odds of getting their classes at Saint Mary’s than if they went to a much larger school. For this reason, it is difficult to believe that the administration would consider lowering the acceptance rate. Until Saint Mary’s is feeling more impacted, it is likely they will continue to do the best they can to improve housing availability and parking. It is my belief, however, that something more drastic needs to happen in order to make a successful change at the College. Since building seems too large a task, I think it would be reasonable to temporarily lower the acceptance rate at Saint Mary’s for the next few years. Saint Mary’s wouldn’t have to change from 69 percent to 8, but lowering it by at least 10 percent may increase housing and parking availability on campus.

A large perk of going to a small school is having the option to live on campus all four years, but if Saint Mary’s continues on the road we are currently on, it is possible that fewer and fewer students will get housing or find a parking space on campus in coming years. We do not want to get into a situation where students are pitching tents in the hills and parking by the cross. Something needs to be done to increase accommodations.

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SPORTS

Sand volleyball season ends, drop two of three

BY EMILIO BUENROSTRO
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After capturing their first two losses of the season in Southern California last weekend, the Saint Mary's sand volleyball team ended their 2014 campaign strong with a close win against the Pacific Tigers.

On Thursday, April 17, the Gaels would travel to Long Beach for an afternoon battle with the 49ers.

Hope of keeping their undefeated season alive quickly fell apart, as Saint Mary's quickly fell behind to the 5th ranked team of the nation early on.

The Gaels' top duo of Jordan Shaw and Samantha Tinsley were not able to capture a win either, losing a tough battle to Long Beach's Delainey Aigner-Swesey and Bojana Todarovic.

After losing by a score of 5-0 to the 49ers for their first loss of the season, Saint Mary's would travel to Malibu on Saturday to try and coast for a win against the Waves of Pepperdine.

Unfortunately for the Gaels, they would experience the same fate that they endured two days prior.

Saint Mary's couldn't find the offensive firepower that they had showcased throughout the season, losing each of their five matches in the first two sets.

The closest match of the day came at the No. 3 pair, as Alexis Salmons and Dalas Dodd fell to Pepperdine's Caitlin Racich and Delaney Knudsen, with the Gaels losing the two sets by a score of 21-18 and 21-12, respectively.

With the their undefeated record far from salvaged, Saint Mary's looked to end their season strong with a win against the Pacific Tigers.

The Gaels traveled to the Raney Sand Courts for an April 23 battle against the Tigers.

Signs didn't look good for Saint Mary's before the matchup, as the Tigers were undefeated on their home court throughout the season. Additionally, the Gaels were missing two players due to illness.

Due to Saint Mary's missing

two players, they were forced to forfeit at No. 5, which gave the Tigers a 1-0 lead.

Rachel Gillcrist and Mileva Popovic started strong, but would eventually fall to Pacific's Alicja Wilk and Kimmy Whitson, as the Gaels quickly fell in a 2-0 hole.

However, Saint Mary's would turn things around, as the duo of Kristina Graven and Natalie Loos put the Gaels back in the game.

With their offense starting to come back to form, Milena Popovic and Alexis Salmon would bring the match to a score of 2-1 at No. 4.

It would be up to Samantha Tinsley and Dalas Dodd to determine that match against Kat Schulz and Lexi Elman of Pacific.

It was Tinsley's and Dodd's first time pairing together all season, which proved to be effective, as the two won the first two sets to capture the match and ultimately the win.

With the win, the Saint Mary's Sand Volleyball team ends its 2014 campaign with a record of 11-2.

Men's tennis loses to Santa Clara

A loss in first round of WCC championship

BY EMILIO BUENROSTRO
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Although they valiantly fought until the very end, the Saint Mary's men's tennis team ended their 2014 campaign with a loss in the first round of the West Coast Conference Championships against the Santa Clara University Broncos.

After the SCU Broncos captured the doubles point early on, sophomore Wil Martin brought the Gaels back with a dominating performance against Santa Clara's Michael Tjuatjadarma, earning himself a 6-1 and 6-2 win.

The Broncos were able to equalize the score with a win at No. 5. However, Saint Mary's looked to freshman Nathan Lewis, who battled back and forth for a win against Mikheil Khmiadashvili at No. 4.

Lewis' win put the Gaels in prime position to advance, leav-

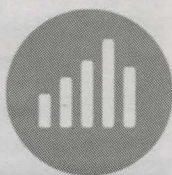
ing them with a 3-2 lead with two matches still left to play.

However, Santa Clara would generate the momentum needed to come back and ultimately win the match, as Ilya Osintsev defeated Saint Mary's senior Tuomas Manner and Joakim Norstrom fell to Santa Clara's John Lamble.

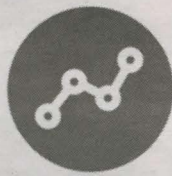
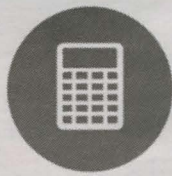
With the loss, the Gaels end their season with a record of 8-13 overall. A heartbreaking loss ends a tough season for the Saint Mary's tennis team. The Gaels had high hopes for the season, but they were not reached.

Saint Mary's says goodbye to Tuomas Manner and Joakim Norstrom, two seniors who have given their all to the program throughout the past few years.

The future of the program is bright, as the Gaels return four of the six players who competed in this year's West Coast Conference Championships.



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SPORTS

COMMENTARY

The NBA playoff format should be changed to a 16-team playoff

Teams should be seeded by record for increased competition

BY KEVIN BROWN
STAFF WRITER

With the first round of the NBA playoffs halfway through for many teams, it is important to analyze the eight different match-ups and how teams got to their current spots. But before that, we have to ask ourselves, do some of these teams even belong in the playoffs? Shouldn't the best teams in the league make it, and not just the top eight from each conference? What if one conference is significantly stronger than the other?

Well, all of these questions are legitimate, given that the Western conference has been stronger than the East for the past 15 years or so. Commissioner Adam Silver continues to mention the NBA's age limit as his top priority to stamp his first big move since taking over for David Stern; his reason being that the NBA's competition level is worsening by the year. But instead of worrying about the age of the league's players, he would be wise to consider changing the format, reaching the optimal competition level. Phoenix competes in the Western conference and missed the playoffs by one game to the Dallas Mavericks, while the Atlanta Hawks made the dance albeit winning just 46.3 percent of their games. Phoenix finished the regular season 48-34 compared Atlanta's 38-44.

The solution I suggest is to create a 16-team playoff, where the league's best teams are seeded solely by record. Not only would this make the playoffs more competitive and give it more of a March Madness-esque feel, but it would also increase television ratings in the regular season. Abandoning the NBA's current conference format, the league's 30 teams would meet almost three times each year, allowing for more prime time match-ups instead of getting your mandatory division games (i.e. Milwaukee vs. Detroit). We could see the heavyweights - Miami and San Antonio - from the East and West three times per year instead of the current two.

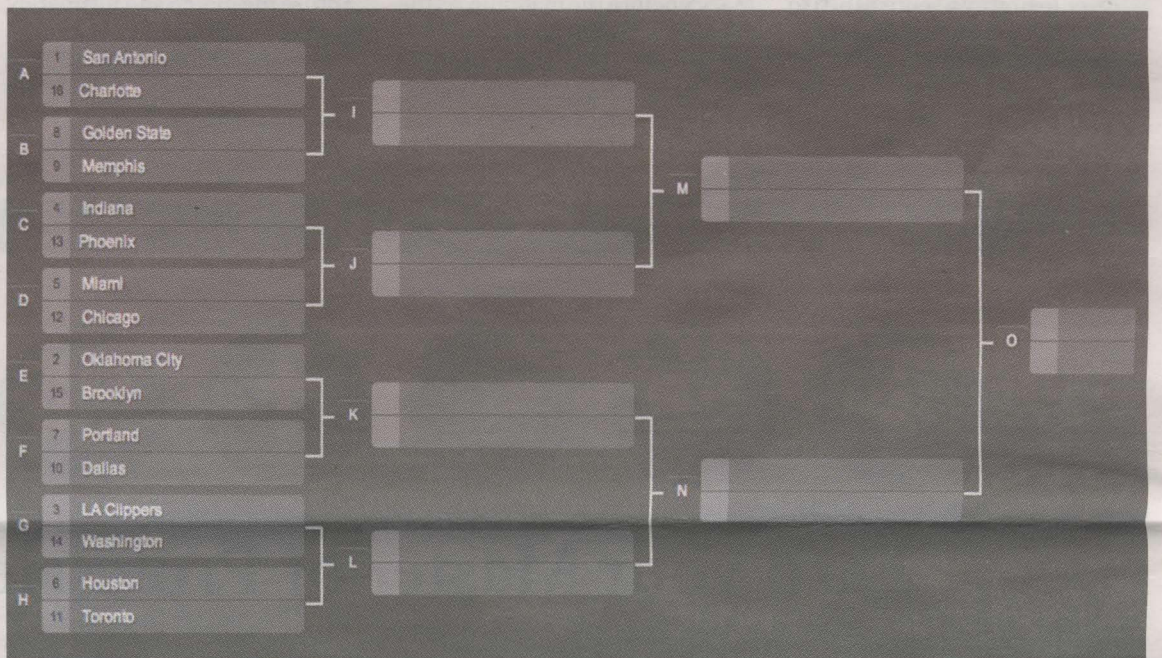
To give you an idea what the playoffs would look like in a best-16 format instead of the current eight for both the East and West, look at the two brackets on the right. The top bracket shows this year's actual contests and the one below shows a potential 16-team format.

Briefly comparing the two brackets, you see that Indiana and Miami are seeded one and two in the current playoff bracket, but they are the 4th and 5th seeds, respectively, in the proposed bracket. Instead of guaranteeing eight teams from the East a playoff spot, the latter bracket only has those two teams, Indiana and Miami, in the top 10, and another five teams seeded between 11 and 16. That gives you nine teams from the powerful Western conference and just seven from the East.

Whether or not the playoff format is modified for the better, considerations should be made to change the NBA into the most competitive professional sport.



Courtesy of sportsbettingacumen.com



Kevin Brown/COLLEGEIAN

Women's tennis makes run, loses in final to Pepperdine

Julien and Pawid earn All-WCC single honors, Flores and Frampton earn doubles honors



JAMIE PAWID was able to win all of her matches in the tournament. (Courtesy of SMC Gaels)

BY DANIEL CONMY
SPORTS EDITOR

Women's tennis had an uphill climb in the WCC tournament and made it all the way to the finals. Since Saint Mary's was the No. 3 seed, they did not receive a two-round bye. This was no problem for the Gaels as they took care of Pacific and San Francisco.

The Pairing of Danielle Flores and Jade Frampton won the first doubles set and then Jamie Pawid and Catherine Leduc followed suit and the Gaels were quickly up by one. Parminder Kaur, Danielle Flores, and Jamie Pawid were able to quickly finish the University of Pacific opponents in straight sets. After the easy victory, women's

tennis looked forward to facing San Francisco.

The pairings of Flores-Frampton and Pawid-Leduc were able to win their doubles matches to earn another point for the Saint Mary's team. Parminder Kaur, Danielle Flores, and Jamie Pawid all won once again against San Francisco. The Gaels looked to be in a good position going into a tough game against BYU.

Earlier in the season, BYU defeated the Gaels 5-2 in Provo, Utah. The Gaels were able to get their revenge by beating BYU 4-0 to advance to the finals of the WCC championship. Saint Mary's was able to continue their dominance on the doubles court as the Flores-Frampton pairing

and Pawid-Leduc pairing won their sets to get the Gaels out to an early lead. Jenny Julien was able to stretch the lead out to two by defeating Mayci Jones 6-1, 6-3. Parminder Kaur and Danielle Flores followed suit and defeated their opponents. Just like that, the Gaels had not dropped one point and were looking poised against the number one seed in the finals, Pepperdine.

Pepperdine jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the decisive doubles points. Jamie Pawid was able to beat Ale Granillo 7-5, 6-0 to even the score at 1-1. Matea Cutura was able to defeat Daniel Flores in three sets to take the lead back for Pepperdine. Jenny Julien and the Gaels came roaring back with a 3-set win against No. 24 Lorraine Guillermo to tie the game at two. Unfortunately, Catherine Leduc

and Parminder Kaur dropped their sets and the Waves were crowned WCC champions after defeating the Gaels, 4-2.

The Gaels have a chance to make the NCAA tournament as they are ranked the 44th best team in the nation at a 15-8 mark. The Gaels are looking for their fifth straight NCAA tournament appearance and will know the result on Tuesday afternoon.

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